

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 OMB-01 MCT-01 /073 W  
-----060291 281114Z /17

R 280515Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6775  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 1606

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PEPR, AF, PK  
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF KHURRAM: THE PAKISTANI CONNECTION

REF: KABUL 1444

1. DURING A CALL ON DR. ABDUL MAJID, MINISTER OF STATE,  
ON FEBRUARY 26, I ASKED WHETHER HE COULD THROW SOME LIGHT  
ON THE IDENTITY OF THE "ALIEN" PLOTTERS CITED IN THE GOVERNMENT  
OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA)'S RECENT WRAP-UP ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE  
KHURRAM ASSASSINATION (REFTEL). MAJID OPENED HIS REPLY BY  
OBSERVING THAT THERE ARE " LOT OF FANATIC MUSLIMS IN THE WORLD",  
MENTIONING, AS RECENT EXAMPLES, THE EXECUTION OF THE "ADULTER-  
OUS" LOVERS IN SAUDI ARABIA AND THE DISORDERS AT QOM AND TABRIZ.  
HE WENT ON TO CLAIM THAT THE GOA HAD OBTAINED A "CLEAR  
CONFESSION" FROM MARJAN THAT HE AND HIS FELLOW CONSPIRATORS  
HAD CROSSED THE DURAND LINE INTO PAKISTAN TO PLOT -- AND  
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THAT "PERSONS" HAD ALSO COME OUT OF PAKISTAN INTO THE KONAR  
REGION OF AFGHANISTAN TO CONSPIRE. MAJID SAID THAT THERE  
WAS "NO QUESTION" THAT THE PLOTTERS BELONGED TO "THE RIGHT-WING"  
(WHICH HE DID NOT IDENTIFY ANY MORE SPECIFICALLY).

2. MAJID OBSERVED THAT THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN EXTREMEISTS  
IN PAKISTAN WHO WOULD ASSIST IN PLOTS AGAINST THE GOA -- AND

THAT SOME OF THESE PERSONS ARE AFGHAN EXPATRIATES. HE ASSERTED THAT THE PANJSHIR UPRISING OF 1975, OF EXAMPLE, INVOLVED SUCH PAKISTANI-BASED SUPPORT. MAJID REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD DAOUD WILL BE CARRYING TO HIS FORTHCOMING MEETING IN ISLAMABAD A DOSSIER OF INFORMATION ON "SOME OF THESE PEOPLE" TO DISCUSS WITH GENERAL ZIA.

3. ALTHOUGH MAJID TOOK PAINS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE CURRENT AFGHAN ACCUSATIONS ARE ONLY AGAINST CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS IN PAKISTAN -- AND "NOT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN (GOP)," HE WENT ON TO OBSERVE THAT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME GOP INVOLVEMENT DURING THE BHUTTO ERA BEFORE THE "SPIRIT OF KABUL" OF 1976, "WHEN RELATIONS WERE NOT SO HAPPY AS THEY ARE TODAY."

4. WHILE ON THE TOPIC OF KABUL'S BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ISLAMABAD, MAJID EXPLAINED THAT THE MAIN REASON WHY THE GOA WELCOMES THE CURRENT DETENTE WITH THE GOP IS THAT THE DAOUD REGIME HAS SO MANY IMPORTANT THINGS IT HAS TO DO IN ITS OWN COUNTRY THAT IT CANNOT AFFORD TO BE DIVERTED BY FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROBLEMS. HE SAID THAT AFGHANISTAN HOPED TO KEEP THIS DETENTE VIABLE, BUT "DID NOT KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN PAKISTAN."

5. COMMENT: I THINK WE MAY HAVE NOW HEARD THE LAST WORD FROM THE GOA ON THE KHURRAM KILLING. AS NOTED IN THE REFTTEL, THE AFGHAN PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED AN IMPRESSIVE WARNING AGAINST DEALING WITH "ALIENS" (A TRADITIONAL BUGABOO IN THIS XENOPHOBIC CONFIDENTIAL

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LAND) -- AND SPECIFICALLY WITH RIGHT-WING, FANATICAL ISLAMIC "ALIENS." DAOUD MIGHT SUCCEED IN GETTING SOME GOP COOPERATION IN DEALING WITH THE NUISANCE CASES IN THE NORTHWEST FRONTIER PROVINCE. WHETHER KHURRAM ACTUALLY DIED AS THE VICTIM OF A "RIGHTIST" PLOT WILL -- AS IS THE CASE WITH SO MANY OTHER EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN -- PROBABLY NEVER BE KNOWN. ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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